

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 26 public bills, H.R. 810–835; and 6 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 24–26, and H. Res. 74–76, were introduced.

Pages H627–28

Reports Filed: One report was filed as follows:

H.R. 624, to amend the Armored Car Industry Reciprocity Act of 1993 to clarify certain requirements and to improve the flow of interstate commerce (H. Rept. 105–6).

Page H627

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Chambliss to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H591

Recess: The House recessed at 1:09 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m.

Page H596

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative LoBiondo wherein he resigned from the Committee on Banking and Finance.

Page H596

Review Panel of the Office of Fair Employment Practices: The Speaker announced that, without objection and with the concurrence of each appointing authority, the Review Panel of the Office of Fair Employment Practices is reconstituted in the 105th Congress in the same form as at the end of the 104th Congress. The clerk read the names of the appointees. By the Speaker: Mr. Randy Johnson and Mr. Alan F. Coffey, Jr. By the Minority Leader: Ms. Karen Johnson and Ms. Marda Robillard. By the Chairman of the Committee on House Oversight: Representative Diaz-Balart, Chairman, and Representative Ney. By the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on House Oversight: Representatives Jefferson and Pastor.

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Resignations and Appointments: Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, February 13, 1997 authorizing the Speaker, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader to accept resignations and to make appointments authorized by law or by the House, and upon consultation with the Minority Leader, the Speaker appointed Mr. John Wilhelm of Washington, D.C. to the National Gambling Impact and Policy Commission on the Part of the House.

Page H596

United States Air Force Academy: The Speaker appointed Representatives Dicks and Tanner as members of the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy.

Page H596

United States Coast Guard Academy: The Speaker appointed Representative Gejdenson as a member of

the Board of Visitors to the United States Coast Guard Academy.

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United States Merchant Marine Academy: The Speaker appointed Representative Manton as a member of the Board of Visitors to the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

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United States Military Academy: The Speaker appointed Representatives Hefner and Skelton as members of the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy.

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United States Naval Academy: The Speaker appointed Representatives Hoyer and McHale as members of the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy.

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Smithsonian Institution: The Speaker appointed Representative Torres as a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

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Gallaudet University: The Speaker appointed Representative Bonior as a member of the Board of Trustees of Gallaudet University.

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Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts: The Speaker appointed Representative Yates as a member of the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Pages H596–97

Page Board: Read a letter from the Democratic Leader wherein he appointed Representative Kildee to the House of Representatives Page Board.

Page H597

Suspension—Airport and Airway Trust Fund: The House completed all debate on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 668, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate the Airport and Airway Trust Fund excise taxes. The vote was postponed until, Wednesday, February 26.

Pages H598–H605

Order of Business: It was made in order that on Wednesday, February 26, the Speaker be authorized to entertain motions to suspend the rules and pass the following two bills: H.R. 624, the Armored Car Reciprocity Amendments of 1997; and H.R. 497, to Repeal the Federal Charter of Group Hospitalization and Medical Services Inc.

Page H605

George Washington Birthday Observance: It was made in order that the program and the remarks of Representative Morella, the member representing the House of Representatives at the wreath-laying ceremony at the Washington Monument for the observance of George Washington's birthday on Thursday,

February 20, 1997 be inserted in today's congressional record.

Page H605

Presidential Messages: Read the following messages from the President:

Social Security Agreement: Message wherein he transmits his Supplementary Social Security Agreement between the United States and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland—referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered printed (H. Doc. 105-47); and

Pages H618-19

National Drug Control Strategy: Message wherein he transmits his 1997 National Drug Control Strategy—referred to the Committees on the Judiciary, Agriculture, Banking and Financial Services, Commerce, Education and the Workforce, Government Reform and Oversight, International Relations, National Security, Resources, Transportation and Infrastructure, Veterans' Affairs, and Ways and Means.

Pages H619-20

Quorum Calls—Votes: No quorum calls or votes developed during the proceedings of the House today.

Adjournment: Met at 12:30 p.m. and adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Committee Meetings

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary held a hearing on Inspectors General for the Department of State and Department of Commerce. Testimony was heard from Jacqueline L. Williams-Bridger, Inspector General, Department of State; and Frank DeGeorge, Inspector General, Department of Commerce.

TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress and public witnesses.

TREASURY, POSTAL SERVICE, AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government, on the Customs Service held a hearing on the U.S. Customs Service. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Ray Kelly, Under Secretary, Enforcement; and George Weise, Commissioner of Customs, U.S. Customs Service.

FINANCIAL SERVICES MODERNIZATION

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit continued hearings on Financial Services Modernization legislation including H.R. 268, Depository Institution Affiliation and Thrift Charter Conversion Act. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

HOUSING AND OPPORTUNITY RESPONSIBILITY ACT

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development held a hearing on H.R. 2, Housing and Opportunity Responsibility Act of 1997, and on Personal Responsibility and Accountability in Communities. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ADULT EDUCATION ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education, Training and Life-Long Learning held a hearing on Adult Education Act. Testimony was heard from Representative Smith of Texas; Patricia McNeil, Assistant Secretary, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, Department of Education; Andy Hartman, Director, National Institute for Literacy, Department of Health and Human Services; Sam Drew, Director, Office of Communications, Department of Education, State of South Carolina; and public witnesses.

COUNTERNARCOTICS EFFORTS IN MEXICO AND ALONG THE SOUTHWEST BORDER

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice held a hearing on "Counternarcotics Efforts in Mexico and Along the Southwest Border". Testimony was heard from Representative Bonilla; Robert S. Gelbard, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, Department of State; from the following officials of the Department of Justice: Mary Lee Warren, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division; Thomas A. Constantine, Administrator, DEA; and Douglas M. Kruhm, Assistant Commissioner, U.S. Border Patrol, Immigration and Naturalization Service; and Tony Castaneda, Chief of Police, Eagle Pass, Texas.

ADMINISTRATION'S FOREIGN ASSISTANCE BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on the Administration's fiscal year 1998 Foreign Assistance Budget Request. Testimony was heard from J. Brian Atwood, Administrator, AID, United States International Development Cooperation Agency.